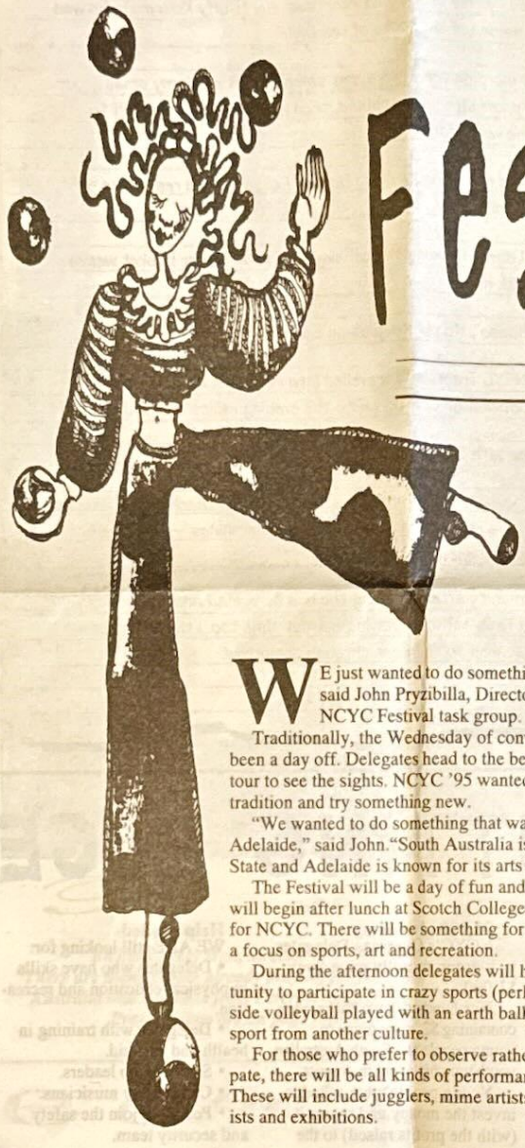
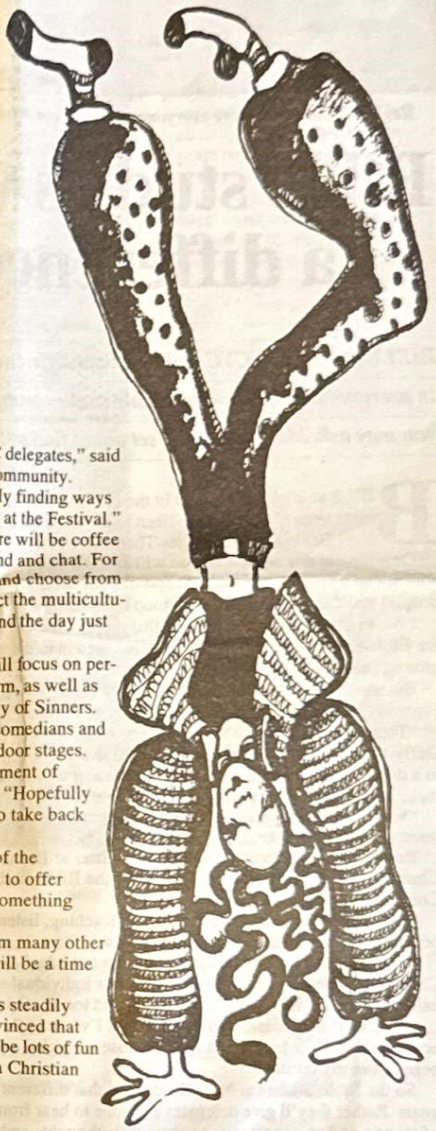
Newspaper of the National Christian Youth Convention, Adelaide 8 - 14 January 1995

Issue No 9 November 1994



# Festival!



By LISA CHAPMAN

WE just wanted to do something different, said John Pryzibilla, Director of the NCYC Festival task group.

Traditionally, the Wednesday of convention has been a day off. Delegates head to the beach or go on tour to see the sights. NCYC '95 wanted to break with tradition and try something new.

"We wanted to do something that was uniquely Adelaide," said John. "South Australia is the Festival State and Adelaide is known for its arts festivals."

The Festival will be a day of fun and celebration. It will begin after lunch at Scotch College, the day venue for NCYC. There will be something for everyone with a focus on sports, art and recreation.

During the afternoon delegates will have the opportunity to participate in crazy sports (perhaps 200-a-side volleyball played with an earth ball) or learn a sport from another culture.

For those who prefer to observe rather than participate, there will be all kinds of performances to see. These will include jugglers, mime artists, graffiti artists and exhibitions.

"The Festival is not just for NCYC delegates," said John. "We'll open it up to the wider community.

"The Festival task group is currently finding ways to handle a few thousand extra people at the Festival."

Food will be available all day. There will be coffee shops for people who want to sit around and chat. For dinner, delegates will be able to pick and choose from a wide variety of meals that will reflect the multicultural nature of the event. You could spend the day just sampling food!

During the evening, the Festival will focus on performance. Colin Buchanan will perform, as well as the internationally acclaimed Company of Sinners. There will be many other musicians, comedians and theatre groups on both indoor and outdoor stages.

"We want to reawaken the development of creative arts in the church," John said. "Hopefully people will see things that they want to take back and try in their own churches.

"I see the Festival as an extension of the NCYC '95 theme *The Edge*. We want to offer people the opportunity to experience something different.

"Delegates will see how people from many other cultures celebrate and praise God. It will be a time of learning."

The excitement about the Festival is steadily growing in the NCYC office. I'm convinced that it is going to be an amazing time. It will be lots of fun with new things to learn — and all in a Christian context.

I'll definitely be there!

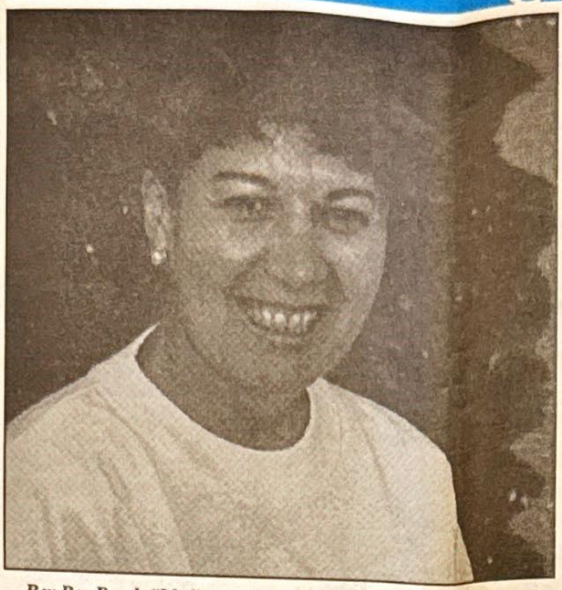
**NCYC '95 (The National Christian Youth Convention) is an activity of the Uniting Church in Australia.**

***L'Edge* is the monthly publication produced on behalf of NCYC '95.**

***L'Edge* is published as a supplement to *New Times*, monthly news magazine of the Uniting Church, Synod of South Australia, First Floor, 33 Pirie Street, Adelaide SA 5000.**

**NCYC '95 MISSION STATEMENT**

**"To construct a community which so reflects the Kingdom of God that people will be changed."**



*Rev Roz Bond: "I believe everyone of us has come from an edge".*

# Bible studies with a difference

***BIBLE studies at NCYC will be a little different from those in previous years. "How can Bible studies be different?" you may ask. MEGAN KIRK set out to find out.***

BIBLE studies will be held in the communities rather than at the main venue, as they have been in previous years, explains Rev Noel Bekker, Bible Studies/Themes Director.

On a typical day at NCYC, you will spend time in small group reflection, attend a Bible study with the rest of your community (about 100 people) and then return for small group time again.

"We've structured it this way so that more of the issues arising from the Bible studies can be pursued and discussed in detail within small groups," says Noel.

But won't people get tired of hearing the same person leading a study everyday? According to Noel, this will not be the case.

"There will be 18 Bible study leaders, including key NCYC speakers Duffy Robbins and Caesar Molebatsi. These leaders will move around to a different community each day. Each leader will present the study topic in their own way. So the inputs will vary.

"We hope that, by presenting the studies in this way, delegates will learn and respond more."

Rev Roz Bond, recently appointed Minister at Dernancourt Uniting Church in South Australia, will be one of the Bible study leaders at the Convention.

"My role at NCYC will be to share by teaching, listening and simply being the freeing love of Jesus my Lord," said Roz.

"I believe everyone of us has come from 'an edge' — an edge that Christ has made his very own. It is from this individual edge that Christ calls us — commands us — to reach out and touch others on their edge.

"As a woman, minister, wife and parent I've struggled with many edges. I would like to share the joy of those struggles and the gift of peace from my creator."

So the Bible Studies at NCYC won't be that different from previous years. Rather they'll give delegates a chance to hear from a wide variety of leaders and an opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings with their small group.

## A day in the life of a delegate

By DAVID GARDINER

*6.30 am:* "RRRRRRRRRRRRRING!" Crash. Yawn. Sound of delegate falling out of bed. It's Monday morning of NCYC '95. There's half an hour until breakfast, so I'd better have a shower and get dressed.

*7.00 am:* Breakfast. Had cornflakes and toast. I asked for a Pie Floater (like I read about in L'Edge) but they didn't have any.

*9.00 am:* Really good time of worship in my community. After that, I met my small group. Wow, these people are great. Our group has a guy from Papua New Guinea who had an incredible journey just getting here.

*10 am:* Good bible study. Led by this short, bald American guy (Duffy Robbins) who was really good. He knows all the names of the books of the Bible!

*10.30 am:* Had a cuppa at morning tea, then spent some more time in my small group. Shot some hoops with some people from Queensland, then hopped on the bus, off to Scotch College — the daytime venue for NCYC.

*12.30 pm:* Lunch (not a salad roll — hooray!) at Scotch College. It's a really nice spot, nestled at the foot of the Adelaide Hills.

*1.30 pm:* My first elective. Learned some new techniques in underwater basket weaving. Can't wait to try them out back home.

*3.30 pm:* Went to a "Hot House". No plants, just an excellent debate on a hot topic.

*5.00 pm:* Hopped on the "NCYC Train", and travelled into Adelaide. Adelaide train station is right next to the Convention Centre, where the evening rallies are held.

*5.45 pm:* Wow, I just ate tea with 2,000 people.

*7.00 pm:* The evening rally. The singing is fantastic. I can't wait to teach these songs to my youth group. The speaker was really good. I learned some new things — and even remembered them, which is pretty good for me!

*10.30 pm:* Back in my community after catching the bus here. Had another cuppa, chatted to some people from Tassie. They're having a great time too. I think I'd better brush my teeth and get some sleep so I can get through tomorrow.

*11.30 pm:* Good Night!

## REGISTRATIONS CLOSE ON NOV. 30

## THE CUTTING EDGE

**Youth ministry training**

NCYC delegates will have the opportunity of doing intensive training in the area of youth ministry during the convention.

Units from the Youth Leader Certificate Course will be available at the convention. More details in your elective book.

**NCYC baseball caps**

IF YOU thought Eddie the Edgehog looked great on boxer shorts — wait until you see the Eddie the Edgehog baseball cap.

Coming to a head near you!

**Overseas delegates**

SO FAR more than 60 overseas delegates have registered for NCYC.

They are coming from places like Papua New Guinea, Germany, South Korea, Fiji and Nauru.

**$1,000 give-away**

NCYC's Overseas Delegates task group recently gave away $1,000.

Five hundred Trust Packs, each containing $2, were given to young people at a South Australian youth worship event in August.

Young people were asked to invest the money and return it (with the profits raised) to the NCYC office.

To date, over $1,700 has been raised to help overseas delegates to attend the convention.

One group of three people used their $6 to buy some ingredients to make devonshire teas. They raised $109.

Another group raised $80 by baking and selling cakes.

Thanks to all who participated. If you haven't returned your Trust Pack — send it to the NCYC office, GPO Box 2145, Adelaide 5000.

**Help needed**

WE ARE still looking for:

- Delegates who have skills in physical education and recreation.
- Delegates with training in health and first aid.
- Small group leaders.
- Community musicians.
- People to join the safety and security team.

If you can help, contact the NCYC office on (08) 231 8660.

**Don't forget**

IF YOU have registered for NCYC you should have received a delegate information sheet and an elective response form.

Please return both of these completed forms to the NCYC office ASAP.

If you haven't received either of these forms — contact the NCYC office on (08) 231 8660.

## Exploring the Edge

### Theme Five

*The Near Edge*

THE final theme for NCYC is *The Near Edge*. This theme will allow us to explore what the edge is and how we can find it. It will prepare each of us to go out on the edge as we leave the convention.

*The Near Edge* will teach us how being a follower of Jesus Christ relates to all aspects of our lives. What we do and say and the lifestyle we choose all determine how we demonstrate our Christian discipleship to the rest of the world.

It will also encourage us to think about how we can change our lifestyles to witness our faith in Jesus Christ. This will be different for each of us. For some, it will mean working for justice in the world. For others it will mean being a compassionate presence at school, home or work, or just finding a way to speak about Christ in our own context.

The focal bible reading for this theme is Luke 14:15-35. It talks about fulfilling the commitment that we've made to Christ.

This reading shows how Jesus doesn't want us to make blind and naive commitments to him, expecting blessings in exchange for this half-hearted commitment. Rather Jesus wants us to be fully committed to him, with us always thinking about what Jesus would want us to do for him, instead of us thinking about what he can do for us.

The additional readings for this theme come from Acts, and re-emphasise the message of being committed to the Lord and carrying out his work.

*The Near Edge* will challenge us to consider how we can go to the edge in the world and fulfil the commitment we've made to Christ.

*—Megan Kirk*

## Prayer

***Richard (Reg) Hall, director of NCYC's prayer support team, is asking people across Australia to join him in prayer. "There are many people already praying for the National Christian Youth Convention," explains Reg. "We have a prayer chain in South Australia that stretches from Peterborough to Padthaway. I know there are many people in other States who are also supporting us." Prayer points are on page four of L'Edge or contact the NCYC office for a copy of the monthly prayer calendar.***

## electives

SEXUALITY and the relationship between men and women are two issues facing young people today. The elective program at NCYC '95 will look at these issues in a Christian context.

One elective that will no doubt be popular is *The Loving Edge: Building healthy relationships*. During this elective the ingredients for successful relationships will be discovered.

People attending this elective will learn how to manage conflict constructively and "the one skill necessary in all relationships".

*Why women and men are the way they are* will look at how differences in gender have an effect on our spirituality, the ways we think and how we socialise.

Another elective, *Women and men: working together*, will discuss the role that gender, socialisation, sexuality and theology have to play when men and women work together.

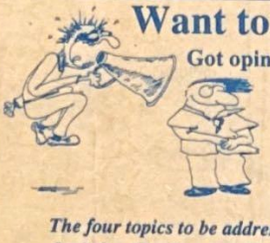
The electives booklet has now been published. Some electives are being held on several occasions to allow more people to attend.

*L'Edge* reporters will be attending some of the more popular electives during NCYC — so if you do miss out, you'll be able to read about them in the daily convention newspaper.

If you don't want to miss out — get your registration form in and return your electives form to the NCYC office as soon as possible.

*—Lisa Chapn*

## Want to have your say?



**Got opinions that should be heard?**

**Make sure you're in the Hot House this January.**

The Hot House will be part of the optional afternoon program at NCYC. It will be a place where you can discuss issues that are relevant to you.

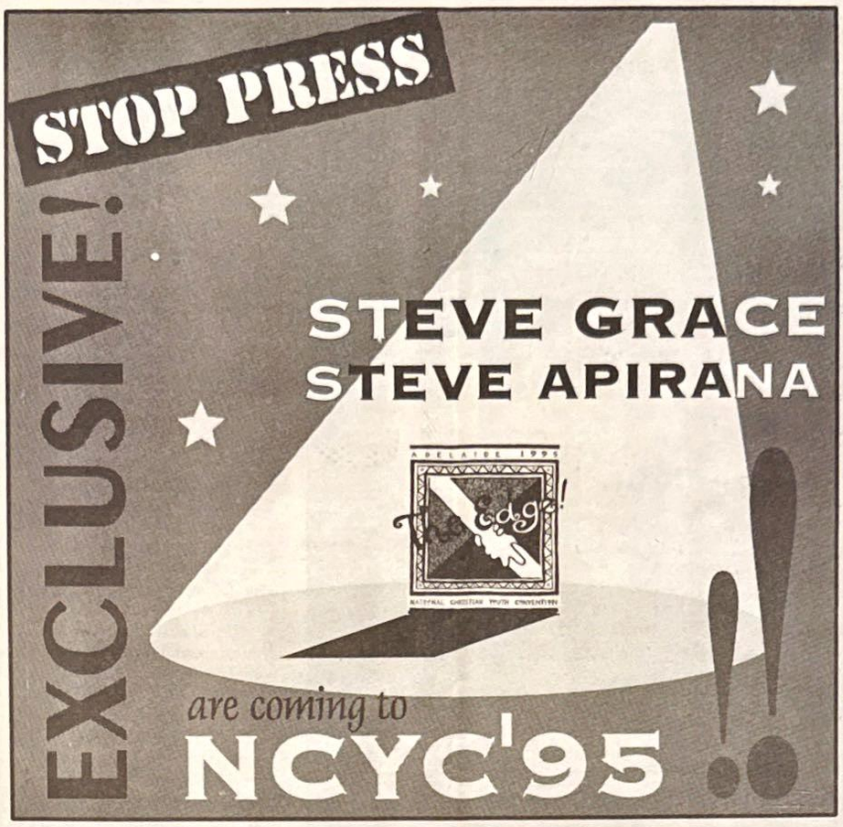
***The four topics to be addressed on different days are:***

**Sex before Marriage — guilt or release?**
(Should Christians have sex before marriage?)

**Is Jesus the ONLY way, truth, and life?**
(Christianity in a multi-cultural and multi-religious Australia.)

**t: Sin or opportunity?**
(do I stop questioning and start believing?)

**d play dice?**
(d "Got the whole world in his hands"?)




# top 10

**TOP 10 THINGS TO DO BEFORE NCYC'95**

*By Lisa Chapman*

1. Pack.
2. Pay your registration by November 30.
3. Return all outstanding forms to the NCYC office.
4. Buy a new address book (all those new friends).
5. Make sure you have a Bible.
6. Get heaps of sleep.
7. Start watching the news to guess what the weather is going to be like in Adelaide.
8. Buy the biggest case you can so that you can pack enough clothes for any kind of weather.
9. Make sure your best friend is coming with you.
10. Dump your current boyfriend/girlfriend — you'll probably meet someone better at NCYC and it will save time and trouble in the long run.

## Prayer Points

- Pray for the NCYC music team as they rehearse and record original songs.
- Pray for the team responsible for putting the convention handbook together.
- Pray for wisdom for those responsible for organising catering, transport, and accommodation details.
- Thank God for the generous support of local businesses.
- Pray for people across the country and overseas as they plan their travel arrangements to attend the convention.


## L'EDS

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Andrew Harris
**Writers**
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Shannon Emsley
David Gardiner
Megan Kirk

eddie the edgehog
by cburt
TODAYS SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY A BRICK WALL
crikey. i can't believe how little time is left to register!
NOV.
i've got most of my money together but i'm still trying every trick in the book
ACME Box 'o' TRICKS
Wow!
some worked...
Rundle Mall
DO NOT TRY THIS AT HOME KIDDIES
WATER PISTOL
BANK
others didn't
But i know its worthwhile if it gets me to NCYC
THE END

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...

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**Northern Territory**
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Darwin 0800
Ph: (089) 81 8444

**So much is happening with NCYC '95, that we couldn't fit it all in! If you want an update on any other NCYC information, please contact Rebecca or Stu at the Convention office on (08) 212 4066, or write to: NCYC '95, GPO Box 2145, Adelaide, South Australia, 5001.**

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